

FOODS ARE EXAMINED

Chemical Laboratory for Testing Imported Articles in the Food Stuff Line.

MAY BAR GERMAN SAUSAGE

Impure Foods Are Stopped at the Customs House and Returned to the Country That Exported Them.

Washington, Aug. 24.—A chemical laboratory for the examination of imported food products will be opened in the appraiser's store building of the treasury department in New York by the department of agriculture September 5. Five of the chemists will be installed, having been selected through special examinations by the civil service commission. This is the first of a number of laboratories to be established to prevent impure food, the product of foreign countries entering the United States. Congress will be asked for appropriations for such laboratories at Boston, Philadelphia, New Orleans, San Francisco and Chicago.

The foreign pure food law has been in force more than a year, and it is regarded as beyond the experimental stage. Dr. H. W. Wiley, chief of the bureau of chemistry of the department of agriculture, declares that it is the intention of the department now to "put the screws on." Eighty per cent of the importations of food arrive at New York. Samples from each cargo hereafter will be taken direct from the appraiser to the laboratory, obviating the delay of requesting samples by the secretary of agriculture from the secretary of the treasury and the transmission of these samples to Washington for analysis.

When the pure food law first was put into operation, it was found that 78 per cent of the imports of goods and drinks were admissible under its provisions. Many cargoes have been re-shipped out of the country as impure, resulting in raising the standard of imports until now it is estimated that 85 per cent of the imports are admissible under the law.

The secretary of agriculture has just granted the first request of an importer to destroy his cargo instead of re-shipping it after it had been condemned as impure, the cargo being olive oil.

The secretary of agriculture is awaiting an interpretation of a portion of the law, which it is believed will exclude entirely the importation of sausages from Germany.

The law excludes articles from entry into the United States from foreign countries which prohibit the importation of such articles. Germany prohibits the importation of sausage, and should the attorney general construe the law as it is believed he will in this respect, it will be enforced against German sausages.

Dr. Wiley declares that there is not a barrel of pure Scotch whiskey in the United States and that the importations of this article are practically all concoctions and should be labeled "compound."

TO PAY \$3,000,000 FOR WATER.

Water Users' Association of Imperial Valley to Buy Canals.

Imperial, Cal., Aug. 24.—At a mass meeting of the members of the Water Users' Association of the Imperial valley, it has been unanimously voted to purchase the Imperial canal system from the California Development Company at the price set by the company which is \$3,000,000. The purchase is made under the terms of the United States reclamation act and under its provisions the federal government will, it is understood, advance the purchase price to the settlers, the amount to be repaid in 10 annual installments. The reclamation of nearly half a million acres of desert land is the final result expected to be accomplished by the transfer. The papers will now be forwarded to the secretary of the interior at Washington for approval. The deal is one of the most extensive and important that has been made under the national irrigation act for the reclamation of arid lands. The waters of the canal system are diverted from the Colorado river and the territory irrigated by it comprises what is known as the Imperial valley in California, a vast tract that extends to the Mexican line.

Ball Player Released.

Butte, Mont., Aug. 24.—Elsey has been released by Manager Wilmot. The reason for the release is failure to live

up to his contract and the fact that he was not playing the ball that he is capable of. This fact led to Elsey's release by Boise.

Elsey at present has not signed with any other club.

PHILIPPINE MONEY.

Currency Scheme Provided for the Islands Possessions.

Washington, Aug. 24.—When the new currency system was proposed for the Philippines there were predictions in some quarters that the conservative islanders could not be readily induced to surrender the Mexican dollars and the Spanish coin with which they had been familiar for so many years in favor of the new Philippine peso proposed by the commission. But reports received here show that the change had been made smoothly and more expeditiously than was thought possible. Colonel Edwards, chief of the insular bureau, has just received the following letter from Henry C. Ide, secretary of finance and justice of the Philippines, dated Manila, July 22, bearing on this subject:

"You will be interested in knowing our currency scheme has made progress since I last wrote you. All the business houses have by common consent put their business on the basis of the new currency. In all the provinces, it is found in free circulation and the people now object strenuously to taking any other currency.

"The old currency has been very largely brought into the insular treasury for recoinage."

The Horse and the Railroad.

The great tableland, Mongolia, is about 3000 feet above the sea, 1700 miles in length from east to west and 1000 miles in width. Part of this area is occupied by the great desert of Gobi, 1200 miles long and about 500 miles wide. This central Asian plateau has given the world a great deal of history. The Mongolian race, tough, hardy, brought up in a climate where there are extremes of heat and cold, raising their flocks and herds, here today, there tomorrow, always restless, always warlike, always predatory—they have made their mark upon the history of the world perhaps as no other people have over so long a period.

What enabled these Mongolian and central Asian tribes to make their wars and keep all humanity in turmoil was the horse. Mongolia is his native home, and from time immemorial he has been the link by which the tribes have sustained a rudimentary form of society. So long as he offered the fastest means of locomotion, so long as he enabled them to mobilize their forces and pour their hordes upon the sedentary races, so long they dominated the position, but when modern invention created better means of mobilization, when the railway came, when organized armies were formed, when modern methods of defense became known and gunpowder began to make havoc, the day of the nomad was done.

A "Hospital" Town.

When the new hospital in Vienna, of which the foundation-stone was recently laid by the emperor of Austria, is completed it will form a town in itself, writes the correspondent of the London Daily Mail. The total area covered is 2,400,000 square feet, and there will be 40 separate buildings, of which 32 will be clinics or hospitals and the remaining eight will be devoted to offices and residences for the staff.

All the clinics will have flat roofs with gardens, so that patients, particularly consumptives, can be in the open air as much as possible. Each patient will have 1039 square feet space, the largest proportion of space allotted to a patient in any hospital in the world.

A correspondent of the Frankfurter Zeitung says that the ultimate cost will be from \$7,000,000 to \$8,000,000. The hospital will be on the "pavilion" or "cottage" plan. Each pavilion with its sick wards, operating and lecturing rooms, will form a hospital by itself, and of these there will be 18. The hospital will have 2300 beds. The magnificent operating rooms will be of a new type. In the clinics for infectious diseases the patient will be separated from the professor and the students by a glass partition.

A number of medical students will live in the hospital for the purpose of close study and observation. The latest technical achievements will be utilized throughout the institution.

Where Inches Count.

In Japan, when a farmer permits a telegraph or telephone pole to be erected on his land, he has made a great concession to modern reform. Only the exceedingly rich have fences around their farms in Japan, not because of the cost of the fence, but because of the value of the square inches the posts and pickets would consume. If a border is desired around a field,

it is customary to plant mulberry trees. The total area of ground in Japan thus devoted to the silk-worm tree, which otherwise would be taken up with fences, amounts to about a hundred and ninety thousand acres. This has no reference to the mulberry farms and groves, the area for which is over three times as much. The fact that a Japanese farmer is forced to figure on the amount of ground a fence-post would occupy, and the interesting fact that the government, in its statistical enumerations, has had the areas covered by individual mulberry trees on farm boundaries carefully computed, demonstrates the great value of arable land.—Booklovers' Magazine.

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Office Constructing Quartermaster Astoria, Ore., August 25, 1904.—Sealed proposals, in triplicate, will be received at this office until 10 o'clock a. m., September 24, 1904, and then opened, for the construction of a frame pump house, removing and resetting old boiler, smoketack and machinery, furnishing and setting two new boilers and smoketack and make connections with wells; also change in distributing of water system and the setting and connecting of four generating sets for electric light at Fort Stevens, Ore. United States reserves the right to reject any or all proposals. Plans can be seen and specifications obtained at this office. Envelopes should be marked "Proposals for construction" and addressed Captain Goodale, Quartermaster, Astoria, Oregon.

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